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### REMARKS

In the present Office Action, claims 1 - 8 were examined. Claims 1 - 8 are rejected. No claims are objected to or allowed.

By this Amendment, claims 1, 3, 5 and 6 have been amended, no claims have been canceled, and claims 9 - 11 have been added. Accordingly, claims 1 - 11 are presented for further examination. No new matter has been added. By this Amendment, claims 1 - 11 are believed to be in condition for allowance.

#### Explanation of Above Amendments

Applicant's invention as embodied in the claims is directed to a system that tracks and monitors the activities related to a sales transaction. As noted in Applicant's specification in paragraph [0011], a "sales transaction" relates to a process flow for the sale and not to the physical transfer of goods that are the object of the sale. A centralized data storage system includes data related to the sales transaction and allows a plurality of users to conduct activities and complete documents required to perfect the sales transaction.

Applicant's claims 1-8 were rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as unpatentable as obvious over *Pragelas, et al.* (US2002/0095308) in view of *Barts, et al.* (US2002/0082893). Both references are drawn to systems to track a transport of goods subsequent to a sales transaction. There is nothing in either reference to teach or suggest a system for facilitating a sales transaction, that is facilitating the process steps leading to a closing of the sale. A disclosure of the tracking of the physical movement of an object from point A to point B (such as from a seller to a buyer) does not teach or suggest a system to facilitate the activities and documents necessary to perfect a sales transaction. Applicant's claims should be allowed over the combination of references.

New claims 9 and 10 are drawn to an embodiment in which an external database is searchable to acquire information necessary to facilitate the sale process. For example, as disclosed in paragraph [0038], where the object that is the subject of the sales transaction is a

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water going vessel, registration information and Coast Guard merchant vessel data is required prior to perfecting the sales document. Likewise, as disclosed in paragraph [0048] escrow agreements and mortgage documents may also be required prior to perfecting the sale. There is nothing in the references of record in the present application to teach or suggest a system to facilitate the activities required to perfect a sales transaction that includes access to a searchable database for pertinent information. New claims 9 and 10 should be allowed over the references of record.

New claim 11 is drawn to an embodiment where the system is a repository of data and has archival and retrieval capabilities as disclosed in paragraphs [0013] and [0014] of Applicant's specification.

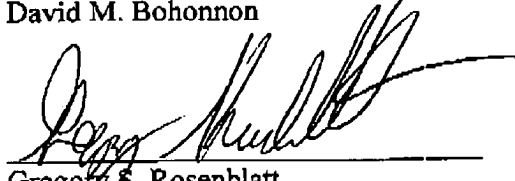
Accordingly, Applicant submits that none of the references, alone or in combination, anticipate or make obvious the invention as presently claimed and that the application is now in condition for allowance. Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and further examination of the application and the Examiner is respectfully requested to take such proper actions so that a patent will issue herefrom as soon as possible.

If the Examiner has any questions or believes that a discussion with Applicant's attorney would expedite prosecution, the Examiner is invited and encouraged to contact the undersigned at the telephone number below.

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Please apply any credits or charge any deficiencies to our Deposit Account No. 23-1665.

Respectfully submitted,  
David M. Bohannon



Gregory S. Rosenblatt  
Reg. No. 32,489

Date: January 18, 2008

**CONTACT INFORMATION:**  
WIGGIN & DANA LLP  
One Century Tower  
New Haven, CT 06508-1832  
Telephone: (203) 498-4566  
Facsimile: (203) 782-2889  
Email: grosenblatt@wiggin.com

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